financial assistance to the State Government such as Drought Prone Area Programme, Accelearated Rural Water Supply Programme, National Watershed Development Programme for rainfed Areas, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana Employment Assurance Scheme, etc. programmes are taken up in Kalahandi district which contribute to mitigate the adverse effects of drought conditions.

With the help of the Calamity Relief Fund which has a Central Share of 75% the State Government is enabled to undertake immediate relief and rehabilitation measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought.

Use of Pesticides

*155. SHRI RAJENDRA PRASAD MODY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that farmers in Egypt, China, Malaysia, South Pacific Islands, Costa Rica, Brazil, Holland, Sweden and Texas have slashed use of pesticides and are harvesting greater yields than before ;

(b) whether Government propose to advise the Indain farmers to cut the use of pesticides by 50 per cent to save cost and increase production, as the use of pesticide is providing harmful ; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) The adoption of Intergrated Pest Management approach has enabled the farmers to reduce the consumption of chemical pesticides in many countries.

(b) and (c) In order to minimise the use of chemical pesticides the Government is promoting intergrated Pest Management technology wherein it is advocated that chemical pesticides should be used as a last resort on the basis of economic threshold level of pests.

दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण को तोड़ना

*156. श्री आनन्द प्रकाश गौतम : क्या शहरी विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण को तोडने का विचार रखती है; यदि हां तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) क्या सरकार को दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण में अभियन्ता एसोसिएशन द्वारा चलाए जा रहे आन्दोलन की जानकारी है और यदि हां तो सरकार ने एसोसिएशन की मांगों पर विचार करने हेतु क्या कदम उठाए हैं; और

(ग) क्या दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण में अभियन्ताओं को परेशान किया जा रहा है और क्या दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण का निर्धारण करने और इसे बड़े बिल्डरों को सौंपने की कोई योजना बनाई जा रही है और यदि हां तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

शहरी विकास मंत्री (श्रीमती शीला कौल) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) इस समय दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण में अभियन्तासंघ कोइ आन्दोलन नहीं चला रहा है ।

(ग) जी, नहीं ।

Increase in Insurance Prrmia Rates for Crops

@*157. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government are planning to double the insurance premia rates for all crops to reduce the heavy losses incurred by it in financing the settlement of farmers' claims; and

(b) If so, the details thereof and reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) and (b) The proposal to make Crop Insurance Scheme self-sustaining is under consideration. The details of the proposal have not yet been finalised.

@Previously starred Question 97, transferred from 1-3-1994.